



## Title V Sexual Risk Avoidance Education (SRAE) Grant FY 2018

### FY2019–RFGA MC-907

Questions received by 5:00 pm October 17, 2018 with responses

#### **Questions from Representative #1:**

1. Page 7 - Item 4) states “a minimum of 10 parent/child events will be completed in targeted communities in SC” as part of the State Performance Measures for FY 2018.  
**Question:** Does parent/child mean events for parents and/or children? Example: Does a parent workshop at their child’s school count as a parent/child event?

**Response:** Presentations to parents may or may not include sessions for youth and parents together. Thus, a parent workshop at their child’s school would count as a parent/child event. A parent workshop must meet the goal of the SRAE program, which is to provide messages to youth that normalize the optimal health behavior of avoiding non-marital sexual activity.

2. Page 8/37 number 10 says to use approaches to link program participants to services of local community partners that support safety and well-being of the target population.  
**Question:** Will an information sheet of local services and resources suffice as an approach?

**Response:** DHEC plans to work with awardees to develop a brochure with listings of local services specific to the geographical areas being served (e.g., mental health, substance abuse, tobacco cessation and intimate partner violence). Provision of an information sheet of local services and resources with contact information will meet this requirement.

3. Page 11/37 item g under Program Assurances states applicants must complete a pre-award subrecipient Risk Assessment annually. Risk assessment is required once annually. If the applicant has completed a risk assessment survey in 2018 with a previous application, submission of an additional risk assessment is not required. **Question:** Will it suffice for the applicant to state a risk assessment was submitted in April 2018, therefore, no risk assessment is currently submitted? It is necessary the applicant isn’t disqualified or graded down because the evaluator didn’t see the risk assessment with the RFGA.

**Response:** A statement that the Risk Assessment was submitted on \_\_\_\_ (date), is sufficient. This will not be an area that is scored by the Review Panel.

4. RFGA FY2019-RFGA-MC-907 is a Sexual Risk Avoidance Education Grant. **Question:** Will the evaluators of applications for RFGA-MC-907 have knowledge of and an appreciation for sexual risk avoidance education as well as the DHEC Abstinence Education Program? Even though independent reviewers are directed to base their scores on criteria stated in the solicitation, reviewers should have an understanding and appreciation for the science behind the sexual risk avoidance approach to fairly evaluate a sexual risk avoidance application.

**Response:** DHEC strives to recruit review panelists that have experience reviewing grant applications, working with youth, and who are knowledgeable of abstinence education. During orientation of reviewers, information on the Title V Abstinence/Sexual Risk Avoidance Education program is provided. Review panel members are volunteers that donate their time to review and score the applications.

5. Page 12/37 item f. states if the applying organization is a non-profit 501(c)(3), they must provide a Certificate of Existence, also known as a Certificate of Good Standing from the Secretary of State's Office. **Question:** Our non-profit applied and paid for a Certificate of Existence for our last grant in April 2018. Can our company use the same certificate for RFGA-MC-907?

**Response:** A current year Certificate of Existence will meet the requirement for RFGA-MC-907.

Questions from Representative #2:

1. **Question:** Will DHEC be paying for SRA recertification for five USPIE staff who were certified two years ago through SCDHEC, or should I budget the expense in my grant application?

**Response:** If certification or recertification of staff is desired, applicants should include the expense in their proposal budget. Request for reimbursement can be made by invoice to DHEC with supporting documentation to include paid receipt from training organization and proof of certification or recertification.

2. I found an error on page 12 that could be misunderstood by reviewers. Under Organizational Experience and Qualifications, item g. says, "List any lawsuits that have been filed against the applicant for all services related to the services that will be provided under this state proviso...". **Question:** Will you be amending the RFGA to fix this error?

**Response:** The RFGA will be revised to remove "state proviso" and replace with "funding opportunity". Thank you for bringing this oversight to our attention.

3. **Question:** Do the page numbers need to begin after the Table of Contents?

**Response:** The cover letter and the Table of Contents are not required to be included in the 75-page count. Page numbering may begin after the Table of Contents.

4. On page 1 of the RFGA, the second paragraph it states, "The total dollar amount available under this RFGA is \$194,121.00 and may be divided among more than one awardee." **Question:** Is this statement made at the discretion of the SCDHEC program office, or is this required language from the Federal government? If it is the discretion of SCDHEC, would the Program Office consider eliminating this statement? Rationale for this request is based on the small amount of funding represented by this RFGA and the difficulty for providing effective services when funding is split among more than one awardee for such a small amount of funding. It would be better use of funding to award the entire amount to one applicant rather than funding two small projects that will be difficult to implement effectively.

**Response:** Awards to subgrantees are made at the discretion of the state agency administering the funds. The dollar amount awarded to the selected applicant(s) will be based on fund availability and the strength of applications submitted in response to the RFGA as determined by the review panel. The agency considers the funding recommendation of the review panel and awards the funding. The award may be divided among more than one awardee.

5. **Question:** Regarding those ineligible to apply for this RFGA, can you state the names of those organizations that are ineligible? From reading the State Plan, it appears to be Heritage Community Services and Bamberg School District. Is this correct?

**Response:** Organizations who received multi-year (5 year) awards under FY2015-RFGA-CY-503 were:

- Heritage Community Services
- Bamberg School District Two